

VEMA/VEMC Speaker Biographies

Sharon Adams is the Executive Director for the Virginia Beach SPCA. Mrs. Adams is the first female Adult Probation and Parole Officer and Deputy Chief in the Virginia-Norfolk region. She was appointed training officer for federal officers, and other investigative personnel. Mrs. Adams earned a Bachelor of Arts-Sociology degree from William & Mary and a Master of Public Administration degree from Old Dominion University.

Cheryl Adkins is the Grants Manager for the Virginia Department of Emergency Management. In this position, she administers all grant programs received by VDEM and works closely with the Office of Commonwealth Preparedness to coordinate the application process for the Department of Homeland Security grants. Cheryl also works with jurisdictions and various state agencies statewide to ensure funding requirements are met. Cheryl has 22 years in financial experience, both private and public sector and has been with VDEM since 2003.

Zachary Adams is the Co-Director of Environmental, Health, and Safety Services at Virginia Tech, where he oversees fire safety, occupational safety, and industrial hygiene programs and serves as emergency planner for the university. He has 22 years of experience and is a licensed professional engineer, certified industrial hygienist, and certified safety professional. He is the Chair of the Local Emergency Planning Commission and Health and Safety Chair for the board of the local chapter of the American Red Cross.

Gordon Barwell joined the Virginia Department of Emergency Management (VDEM) in 1997 and is currently Director of the Local Support Services Division. He previously served as Senior Training and Development Coordinator and Chief, State Plans and Special Projects. He developed and implemented six Local Emergency Management Operations Courses. He also developed a state agency guide for Emergency Response/Continuity of Operations Planning. E-mail: gordon.barwell@vdem.virginia.gov

Todd Branscome has been in the Emergency Management Field for over 15 years. In that time he has held positions as Emergency Services Coordinator, E-911 Coordinator, Hazardous Materials Coordinator, and Safety Manager for local government. During that time Mr. Branscome has gained experience working a variety of disasters including the Blizzard of 93, Ice Storms of 99, and numerous hazardous materials incidents.

Greg Britt is currently VDEM's Hazardous Materials Field Manager. He has more than 20 years of experience in the field of public safety. In the early 1980s, he was employed by Fairfax County Fire and Rescue as a fire fighter, EMT, and Hazardous Materials Technician. In 1988, he accepted a position with VDEM as a Hazardous Materials Officer for the Central Virginia area, where he has responded to over 500 hazardous materials incidents. E-mail: gregory.britt@vdem.virginia.gov

Brett A. Burdick is currently the director of the VDEM Technological Hazards Division. He joined the Virginia Department of Emergency Management in 1994. As Environmental Programs Manager he directed the environmental restoration of the Commonwealth of Virginia Emergency Fuel Storage Facility in York County. Mr. Burdick was the Terrorism Program Manager directing Virginia's Consequence Management efforts and preparedness for terrorist incidents. He is a member of the Regional Response Team for EPA Region III. Mr. Burdick earned a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Geology and Oceanography from Humboldt State University and a Master of Science from Virginia Commonwealth University.

Mary Camp is currently a part-time project specialist for the Virginia Department of Emergency Management. She retired from full-time public service in 2005 after 32 years with government agencies. In her last position as Director of the Recovery & Mitigation Division for VDEM, she

supervised disaster assistance programs and served as a Deputy State Coordinating Officer for major disasters.

Janet L. Clements joined VDEM in 1984 and is currently Chief Deputy State Coordinator. She was formerly the Public Affairs Director and served as the agency's chief spokesperson for coordinating crisis communications and emergency public information, including 19 presidentially declared disasters and numerous emergencies and incidents. She was instrumental in promoting hazard awareness and disaster preparedness throughout Virginia. E-mail: janet.clements@vdem.virginia.gov

Michael M. Cline joined VDEM in 1972, starting in the Public Assistance Office working during Hurricane Agnes and the October floods. He has served as State Coordinator of Emergency Management since 1998. Cline has been a member of the State Disaster Response Team for more than 30 presidential declared disasters. He has worked as Deputy State Coordinating Officer and State Coordinating Officer during floods, ice storms, and hurricanes since 1984. E-mail: michael.cline@vdem.virginia.gov

Perry Cogburn graduated from the University of Maine with a Bachelor of Science Degree in Wildlife Management in 1976 and from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute with a Master of Science Degree in Environmental Planning in 1980. He spent 14 years with the Maine Department of Environmental Protection as an Oil and Hazardous Material Specialist, the last seven as the supervisor of a regional response team. Perry joined VDOT in 1994 as the Deputy Director of the Virginia Department of Transportation's Emergency Operations Center and in 2002 became the Director after serving as the acting Director for most of 2001.

Harry E. Colestock, III joined VDEM in 1993 and is currently Director of Operations. His previous experience includes state recovery manager, legislative liaison, and hazardous materials emergency planning a special project related to the Department of Defense and grants management. E-mail: harry.colestock@vdem.virginia.gov

Ted Costin is the Director of the Preparedness, Training, and Exercise Division for VDEM. Previously, he worked for the County of Greensville as the Planning Director and then as the Assistant County Administrator. In both positions he served as Deputy Coordinator of Emergency Services. He managed many aspects of the county's response to and recovery from Hurricanes Isabelle and Fran, Y2K, and several other events. E-mail: ted.costin@vdem.virginia.gov

James P. Council is a native of California currently serving as Mayor of Franklin, Virginia. A graduate of Hampton-Sydney College and Air Force Veteran, he was elected Mayor in 1996. Mayor Council sits on the Executive Committee of the Virginia Municipal League. An Insurance professional, Mayor Council is active in his church, Scouting, Rotary and several other community concerns. The Mayor's tenure includes overseeing response, recovery and mitigation efforts in Franklin for two major flooding incidents: 1999 and 2006.

Robert P. Crouch, Jr. serves as the Assistant to the Governor for Commonwealth Preparedness. Prior to that, he served as Legal Counsel to Governor Mark R. Warner. From January 2002 to May 2005 he was the Chief Deputy Secretary of Public Safety. Crouch has eight years of experience as a United States Attorney in the Western District of Virginia. He was in a private law practice for five years in Charlottesville and Martinsville. He served as Clerk of the Circuit Court in Henry County for nine years. Crouch has degrees from the University of Maryland, the University of North Carolina-Greensboro, and his law degree from the University of Virginia.

Donna Eddleman serves as the Dean of Students at Christopher Newport University, where she has worked since 1997. She earned her Masters Degree in Human Resource Management with an emphasis in Student Services Personnel Administration from Utah State University and is pursuing her doctoral degree in Educational Policy, Planning and Leadership from The College of William and Mary.

Chris Essid currently serves as Virginia's Commonwealth Interoperability Coordinator within the Governor's Office of Commonwealth Preparedness. This position leads statewide efforts to improve voice and data communications interoperability at all levels of government. Chris's efforts in his role have resulted in Virginia's local driven strategic planning process being used as a national best practices model by DHS; and Virginia becoming the first state to migrate from 10-codes to plain language to comply with NIMS. Chris has worked for Virginia state government since 2000 for the Department of Transportation and the Department of Taxation. Prior to working for state government Chris worked for the Marine Corps Headquarters leading programs and outreach to Marines stationed around the world. Before this he served as a member of the US Army Military Police Corps. Chris earned a Bachelor's Degree in History from the University of Kentucky and a Master's in Public Administration from the University of Oklahoma.

John Feldt is the Hydrologist in Charge of the National Weather Service's Southeast River Forecast Center (SERFC) in Peachtree City, Georgia. The SERFC's area of responsibility includes river drainages in Virginia, North, and South Carolina, Florida, Georgia, Alabama, Mississippi, and Puerto Rico. The SERFC is responsible for providing hydro meteorological forecasts and guidance to the NWS Weather Forecast Offices, federal and state agencies, and the public. John has been involved in some of the nation's biggest floods, including the Great Midwest Flood in 1993, Hurricane Floyd in 1999, and recently the active 2004 hurricane season.

Wendell R. Flinchum is a native of the Blacksburg area, attended Virginia Tech and began employment as a student with the Virginia Tech Police Department in 1983. He was hired full time as a communications officer in 1985 and has risen through the ranks to his current position as Chief. Flinchum was named Chief in December, 2006, after serving as the Interim Chief since July, 2006. In 2005, he graduated from the Federal Bureau of Investigation National Academy. In 2006, he received a commendation from the Office of the Governor of Virginia for leadership during the manhunt incident of August 21 and the Commonwealth Silver Valor Award in 1990.

Chris Grandi is currently an intelligence analyst for the Virginia State Police, Virginia Fusion Center. His research interests include radical Islamists movements, Islamic history, China, and internet radicalization. He has interned at the National Defense University and has presented on *Muslim Conduct in War, Jihad, Chinese Ethics Morals and Values, and al-Qa'ida*. Chris earned his MA degree in International Studies, at Old Dominion University.

Mark Haraway is the Fire Chief for the Town of Apex in North Carolina. He is a third generation firefighter with 27 years of service. Chief Haraway serves on the development team for North Carolina Office of State Fire Marshall (NCOSFM), for the Unified Command and Control Course. He is also an instructor for NCOSFM in Incident Command, Hazardous Materials, Fire and Rescue, Structural Collapse and Trench Rescue. Chief Haraway developed one of the first Rapid Intervention Safety courses used in North Carolina and still taught statewide and has written several articles for fire publications. He has a Bachelor's Degree in Fire Safety Management with an undergraduate in Pubic Administration from The Institute of Government in North Carolina.

Emmett H. Harmon is the Chief of Police for James City County and has been a Virginia law enforcement officer for 31 years. He was the first police officer hired by the county for its new police department in December of 1979. Chief Harmon has risen through the ranks from Patrol

Officer, Sergeant, Lieutenant, Major, Deputy Chief and Chief of Police. He graduated with honors from Christopher Newport University with a Bachelor of Science degree in Governmental Administration and also received an Associate Degree in Police Science from Thomas Nelson Community College. Chief Harmon is a graduate of the FBI National Academy and the Professional Executive Leadership School at the University of Richmond.

Kenny Hayes is currently employed with the Virginia Department of Emergency Management as the Resource Management Coordinator. He is currently the Logistics Branch Chief for the Virginia Response Team as well as the EMAC/SMA Coordinator for the Commonwealth. He has been with the agency since July 2004 and comes to Virginia from the Gulf Coast. Kenny has been involved in disaster operations for over 25 years. He has been the Incident Commander for long-term operations in Venezuela, Ecuador, and the United States dealing with a range of disasters from oil pipeline explosions to mudslides to hurricanes. Kenny has been involved with EMAC since 1998. During Hurricanes Katrina, Rita and Wilma, he and the Logistics Branch team deployed 65 missions and 1,576 personnel to the Gulf Coast coordinating with over 20 different states, county, and local agencies to get them deployed on their missions.

Birch Holt is the Manager of Business Continuation for Target Corporation. His responsibilities include identifying critical business functions at Target and creating and testing business continuation plans for those functions. He has worked for Target Corporation for a total 27 years. He has spent the past five years working in Business Continuation. Mr. Holt currently serves as a Member of the Board for the Twin Cities Business Continuity Planners Association. Mr. Holt has a Bachelor of Science Degree and a Master of Accountancy Degree, both from Brigham Young University.

Bryan Koon joined Wal-Mart Stores, Inc. in April 2006 as the Senior Operations Manager in the Emergency Management Department. In this role, he is responsible for Wal-Mart's Emergency Operations Center and the day-to-day emergency management activities of the company. Prior to Wal-Mart, Bryan worked at the White House Military Office for seven years. He started as a Watch Officer in the President's Emergency Operations Center, when he was an active duty navy officer. He then spent two years as Training Officer for Presidential Contingency Programs, where he conducted training and exercises for the White House Military Office, United States Secret Service, Federal Emergency Management Agency, and others. Bryan has a BS from Cornell University, and an MBA and a Graduate Certificate in Emergency and Crisis Management from the George Washington University. He is a certified Business Continuity Planner (CBCP).

Rick Lohr is the Emergency Coordinator and Executive Director for Somerset County. Emergency Management and Department of Emergency Services since April 1994. He has worked in Somerset County in the Emergency Services field for 32 years. Rick was Somerset County's first 911 coordinator in 1990. Major events were 1996 Winter Flooding in Somerset County and 1998 Salisbury Tornados, the crash of United Flight 93, and the Queecreek Mine Rescue in July 2002. He was an active County EMA Coordinator in Pennsylvania region 13. Rick was the past assistant chief and current president of the Hooversville Volunteer Fire Dept.

Tal Luton is the first James City County chief to rise from the ranks of firefighter to the top position in the history of the department. He started with the department in 1980 as a firefighter then promoted to Lieutenant in 1983 and later Captain. In 1998 he was named Emergency Medical Services Manager as well as Public Information Officer for the department. Tal was named Fire Chief in August 2005. Tal is an active member of the Virginia State Fire Chiefs Association, International Association of Fire Chiefs, Virginia Emergency Management Association, Southeastern Association of Fire Chiefs, and the National Fire Protection Association.

John Magda is the Assistant Emergency Coordinator for Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES) for James City County and Williamsburg. He has been an amateur radio operator for 21 years. John is a resident and CERT member of James City County. He trained in emergency and terrorist situations as a Department of Defense forward deployable civilian. John is a member of the Naval Base Norfolk emergency managers distributed staff and notification team. With regard to amateur radio communications, he is a member of ARES. This group lends itself to offering communications to county and city designated shelters and American Red Cross (ARC) chapter offices.

Dave Manning has been the Warning Coordination Meteorologist in the Baltimore-Washington Weather Forecast Office since 2004. He worked as a meteorologist at the National Weather Service in Tulsa, Oklahoma before returning to the East Coast in 2002 to be a forecaster at the Sterling Virginia Forecast Office. While in college, Manning was part of the NOAA Student Career Experience Program and worked in the Techniques Development Laboratory in Silver Spring, Maryland and the Goodland, Kansas Weather Forecast Office.

John William Marshall was appointed Secretary of Public Safety in 2002 by Governor Warner. Marshall has responsibility for the oversight of 14 state public safety agencies, including the Department of State Police, Department of Corrections, and the Virginia National Guard. Governor Tim Kaine appointed Marshall in January 2006. Marshall began his career in public service and law enforcement in 1980 as a state trooper. During his 14 years with the Department of State Police, he also served as a Special Agent in the Narcotics Division, Sergeant-Instructor at the Training Academy, and as a Sergeant assigned to field operations. Secretary Marshall graduated from Georgetown University in 1988 with a BA in government, and he also holds a Post-Baccalaureate Certificate in the Administration of Justice from Virginia Commonwealth University.

Bob Mauskopf is the Virginia Department of Health's State Emergency Planning Coordinator. He represents the VDH with The Commonwealth's Emergency Response Team, the Commonwealth Preparedness Working Group, and the Governor's Secure Commonwealth Panel. In addition to his primary duties, he serves as his Department's Strategic National Stockpile Coordinator, Emergency Coordination Center Director, and Exercise Coordinator. Prior to assuming his current duties in 2002, Bob served as a Marine Corps Officer completing his military career as Chief of Staff. He earned a Bachelor's Degree in Business and a Master's in Public Administration and is a graduate of the Army War College, National Defense University, Armed Forces Staff College and Defense Language Institute and University of North Carolina's Southeast Public Health Leadership Institute. He is on the adjunct faculties at Virginia Commonwealth University and Strayer University.

Susan Mongold is the Grants Coordinator for the Virginia Office Commonwealth Preparedness. In this position, she works closely with VDEM to coordinate the application process for the Department of Homeland Security grants, research alternative sources of funding, functions as a conduit for information sharing on homeland security initiatives throughout the Commonwealth. Susan has worked as a state employee for 17 years – last serving as the Training Manager for the Department of Environmental Quality.

Larry Mullendore has been the Senior Emergency Preparedness Planner at Virginia Commonwealth University for nearly five years. Additionally, since November 2005, he has also been the VCU Medical Center Emergency Planner and Chair of the VCU Medical Center's Emergency Preparedness Subcommittee. He retired from the United States Army as a colonel in 1997 after 30 years of service.

Brenda Phillips teaches emergency management at Oklahoma State University with particular expertise in disaster recovery and high-risk populations. She is a researcher with the Center for the Study of Disasters and Extreme Events and faculty member in the Fire and Emergency

Updated 4/13/07

Management Program. She has taught or given presentations around the world. Her work has been published in numerous professional publications, including the Journal of Emergency Management, Disaster Management, Disasters, and the International Journal of Mass Emergencies and Disasters.

Francis Gary Powers, Jr., founded the Cold War Museum and Memorial in 1996 to honor Cold War Veterans and preserve Cold War History. The Junior Chamber of Commerce selected him as one of the "Ten Outstanding Young Americans" for 2002. He lectures internationally and appears regularly on the History, Discovery, and A&E channels. Gary holds a Bachelor's of Arts Degree in Philosophy from California State University, Los Angeles, and a Master's Degree in Public Administration/Certification in Non-Profit Management from George Mason University (GMU), Fairfax, Virginia. Gary is married and has one son.

Janet C. Queisser currently is the Emergency Coordination Officer of the Department of Environmental Quality. Having worked for the State for more than 20 years, she has been manager for DEQ's Facility and Tank Vessel Oil Discharge Contingency Plan programs and worked as regional biologist and pollution investigator for the State Water Control Board's Roanoke Office. She is presently the Virginia representative to the Incident Specific Regional Response Team (Region III) and is a member of the Commonwealth Preparedness Working Group. She has a Bachelor of Science Degree in Biology from Virginia Tech.

George Roarty is the Virginia Department of Emergency Management's Recovery and Mitigation Division Director, which is comprised of the Public Assistance, Individual Assistance and Hazard Mitigation Branches. Prior to assuming his current position, George was the manager of the Hazardous Materials and Terrorism Planning Branch in the Preparedness, Training and Exercises Division. In that position, he was responsible for implementing state and federal hazardous materials emergency preparedness programs. This included coordinating the development and maintenance of the *Virginia Hazardous Materials and Terrorism Consequence Management Plan*, as well as providing technical and grants assistance to Local Emergency Planning Committees in support of their hazardous materials emergency preparedness and response programs. He has also served in a variety of operational roles in the agency's response to and recovery from disasters. He holds a Bachelor of Arts in Economics and a Master of Arts Degree in City and Regional Planning.

Robert S. Ryalls is the District Chief/Deputy Coordinator for James City County responsible for the overall operations of the Emergency Management Division, including oversight of the Emergency Operations Center (EOC). Also responsible for Weapons of Mass Destruction (WMD) Homeland Security antiterrorism programs, large project management, Explorer Scout programs and grants management. Mr. Ryalls earned his Bachelor of Arts degree in Human Resources Administration Management at St. Leo College, Nationally Registered Paramedic Program, Medical College of Virginia, and is a Graduate of the Executive Fire Officer Program at the National Fire Academy.

Bill Sammler is a Warning Coordination Meteorologist at the National Weather Service (NWS) in Wakefield, Virginia. He coordinates with state and local emergency managers and NWS customers to ensure NWS products and services meet their needs. Sammler is the media liaison at NWS Wakefield. He also participates in a number of training initiatives, including CERT, the FEMA/NWS Warning Coordination Course, and the SKYWARN storm spotter training. E-mail: William.Sammler@noaa.gov

Jonathan Sarubbi was appointed Regional Administrator of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security's Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Region III Office in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, in March 2007. He is responsible for coordinating FEMA emergency preparedness, mitigation, and disaster response and recovery activities in the District of Columbia and the states of Delaware, Maryland, Pennsylvania, West Virginia, and Virginia. Prior

to joining FEMA, Mr. Sarubbi was the Vice President of Maritime Operations for the International Registries, Maritime and Corporate Administrators of the Republic of the Marshall Islands. During a 26 year U.S. Coast Guard career that ended in 2005, Mr. Sarubbi specialized in marine safety, port security and pollution response. He held a variety of leadership positions of increasing responsibility at five marine safety field offices in the United States and Japan. He also served as national program manager for the Coast Guard's commercial vessel safety program. Mr. Sarubbi was Commanding Officer of Marine Safety Office/Group Philadelphia, now Sector Delaware Bay. He served concurrently as Captain of the Port, Federal On Scene Coordinator and Federal Maritime Security Coordinator for eastern Pennsylvania, southern New Jersey and Delaware. He coordinated multi-agency responses to oil spills and other disasters.

Dr. Andy Sheston is the Director of University Housing at Christopher Newport University. He became a member of the CNU staff in October of 2004. He has a Doctorate of Philosophy in College Student Personnel Administration from the University of Northern Colorado and has been a higher education professional for almost 20 years.

Jim Shortal is the Senior Manager for the Crisis Management program at The Home Depot headquartered in Atlanta, Georgia. In this role, Jim leads business continuity and crisis management planning and response efforts for natural and man-made disasters, and all threats to The Home Depot. He has been involved in the business continuity and disaster recovery field since 1989. Jim joined The Home Depot in August 2004 and has served on the Information Technology Long-Range Planning Team and as the Disaster Recovery Manager for Information Technology before assuming his current role. Prior to The Home Depot, he served as Disaster Recovery Coordinator and Facilities Manager for Wal-Mart's Information Systems Division and as Manager of International Infrastructure for Wal-Mart International ISD. He has also managed his own disaster recovery and business continuity consulting practice, and managed a network of disaster recovery hot sites during his career.

Colonel Robert Sparks is currently an Engineer for the Virginia Air National Guard stationed at Fort Pickett, Virginia. His present assignment is the Garrison Commander, Maneuver Training Center at Fort Pickett Army National Guard. Colonel Sparks was mobilized for Operation Desert Shield/Storm as an Engineer Battalion and deployed to Kuwait/Iraq for Operation Iraqi Freedom as Battalion. In 1984, he earned an Associate Degree in Mining Engineer from Southwest Virginia Community College and in 1993 a Bachelor of Science degree in Management from Bluefield College.

Bob Spieldenner is the Director of Public Affairs for the Virginia Department of Emergency Management. He serves as the agency's chief spokesperson, managing the media relations, crisis communications, public education and awareness programs. He also coordinates statewide public information activities during emergencies and disasters. Prior to joining VDEM, Bob managed national public education campaigns and served as primary spokesperson for the United Network for Organ Sharing, which coordinates the national organ transplant system. Accredited in Public Relations by the Public Relations Society of America (PRSA), he is Past President of the PRSA Richmond Chapter. He is also a member of the Virginia Government Communicators. Bob graduated from the Virginia Military Institute in 1989 with a degree in History and attended Virginia Commonwealth University's graduate program in Journalism.

Erin Sutton is the Emergency Planner for the Virginia Beach Department of Public Health and Director of the Virginia Beach Medical Reserve Corps. She has been with the Health Department for just under three years and started the Medical Reserve Corps in 2004. Currently, Mrs. Sutton is involved in pandemic planning for the City of Virginia Beach, planning for the Cities Readiness Initiative, and working with nursing homes and assisted living facilities to help them write their emergency and evacuation plans. Mrs. Sutton earned her Bachelor of Science Degree in Biology from Radford University and completed her Master's Degree in Microbiology and Immunology at Wright State University.

Lauren Tedder serves as the corporate Business Continuity Manager for Food Lion, LLC. In this capacity, she is responsible for all business continuity planning for the Food Lion, Bloom, Bottom Dollar, and Reids brands. Under the umbrella for business continuity, she is heavily involved in pandemic planning and hurricane preparedness. Prior to her role in Business Continuity, she was in Financial Planning and Analysis. Lauren majored in Political Science at Appalachian State University and received a Master's Degree in Public Administration from the University of North Carolina at Charlotte.

Margaret Tucker has been with the James City County Fire Department since 1980. Serving as a firefighter/paramedic for most of her career, Margaret recently became the departments' Fire Educator. Margaret is a nationally registered EMT-Paramedic, an American Heart Association CPR Instructor-Trainer, an EMT instructor, and has several other instructor credentials. Assigned to public education for the last three years, she develops, coordinates and instructs school programs, develops specialized classes, community outreaches, and public speaking events. She has taken the Juvenile Fire Setter Intervention Specialist 1 and 2, and coordinated with Williamsburg Fire Department in developing a local juvenile fire setter program. Margaret is also the department's manager for the Citizens Emergency Response Team (CERT) program.

Hui-Shan Walker joined the Chesapeake Virginia Fire Department Office of Emergency Manager in April 2000 as the Deputy Coordinator of Emergency Services. Ms. Walker is responsible for coordinating and implementing emergency services and preparedness plans and programs. She received her Certified Emergency Manager (CEM) designation in February 2006 through the International Association of Emergency Managers. Prior to this assignment, she served as Director of Emergency Services/Information Systems for the Portsmouth/W. Chesapeake, Virginia Chapter of the American Red Cross. She received a Bachelor of Arts Degree from Emory University in 1995 and her Masters of Public Administration at Old Dominion University in 2004. Ms. Walker's professional associations include the Chamber of Commerce: Leadership Hampton Roads, International Association of Emergency Managers, and Conference of Minority Public Administrators. Ms. Walker has served in a variety of emergency management positions. This includes Chair of the Hampton Roads Emergency Management Committee and Regional Emergency Management Technical Advisory Committee. Currently, she is the 1st Vice-President of the Virginia Emergency Management Association.

Jane Woods opened her own consulting company, Driftwoods Consulting, LLC, in January 2006 upon completing a four-year term as Virginia's Secretary of Health and Human Resources with Governor Mark R. Warner. Prior to 2006, Mrs. Woods served in the Virginia State Senate and the Virginia House of Delegates and as Chair of the Senate Committee on Education and Health. Before serving in the legislature, she taught in the public schools for almost 20 years. Mrs. Woods graduated from American University in Education and has managed a small commercial real estate management company in addition to her work in health policy and education.

Doug Young was appointed as Emergency Manager (EM) for Danville, Virginia in May 1996 after serving 13 years in the Police Department as an officer and Deputy EM Coordinator. Doug currently serves as President of the Virginia Emergency Management Association and holds certifications as Virginia Professional Emergency Manager (VPEM) through the Virginia Emergency Management Association. and Certified Emergency Manager through International Association of Emergency Managers.

